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SENATOR GEORGE RUNNER
REPUBLICAN CAUCUS CHAIR
SEVENTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

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APPROPRIATIONS

REVENUE AND TAXATION

SELECT COMMITTEE ON
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

June 6, 2007

Dr. Robert F. Sawyer, Chairman
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Dr. Sawyer:

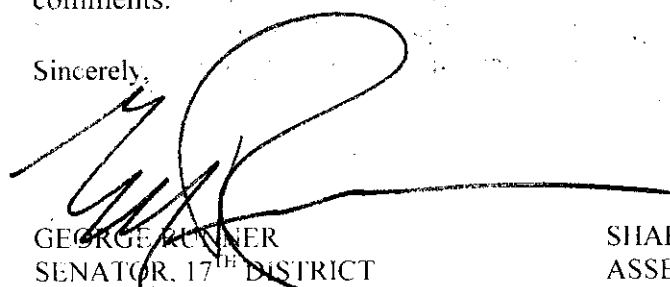
The State of California has an historic opportunity to implement change and stem the potential adverse impacts of global warming. As part of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 implementation process, the Air Resources Board (ARB) is currently considering opportunities for early action that will both demonstrate the seriousness of the State's commitment, and achieve real carbon reductions.


We applaud ARB's efforts and encourage the continued advancement of measures that will yield cost effective, technologically feasible emissions reductions. However, we would caution against rules that impose undue economic burden on lower and fixed-income citizens. In particular, we are concerned about one of the early action items which proposes to ban the retail sales of automotive air conditioning refrigerant.

To the extent that a possible retail sales ban on automotive refrigerant will disproportionately impact low-income and rural communities who cannot afford professional service, we urge you to seriously consider possible regulatory alternatives that will yield similar reductions, but have less impact on the health and safety of our state's most vulnerable citizens. While the reduction of air pollution is a laudable goal, it is important to recognize the importance of ensuring that individuals are able to protect themselves from extreme heat, particularly in the high desert regions where temperatures reach record highs for extended periods each summer.

Again, thank you for your efforts towards making California a leader in global warming solutions. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,


GEORGE RUNNER
SENATOR, 17TH DISTRICT


SHARON RUNNER
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 36TH DISTRICT



ORIGINAL: Board Clerk
Copies: Executive Officer
Chair

ROGlesby
P2006/07